

# **MONTANA WHEAT AND BARLEY COMMITTEE**

**Interim Board Meeting  
Missouri Room, Heritage Inn  
Great Falls, Montana  
December 2, 2013**

The following were present for either a portion of or the entire meeting.

## **DIRECTORS**

Milo Mattelin	Chris Kolstad, Chairman
Bruce Myllymaki	Frank Schoonover
Randy Hinebauch, Vice Chairman	Leonard Schock
Tom Siderius	

## **EX-OFFICIOS**

Ron de Yong, Director, Montana Department of Agriculture  
Byron Grassman, Manager, Mountain View Coop  
Dr. Glenn Duff, Interim Dean, MSU College of Agriculture

## **STAFF**

Steve Becker, Outreach Coordinator  
Cassidy Marn, Marketing Program Manager  
Kolleen Spurgin, Budget & Grants Coordinator  
Tammy Suek, Administrative Assistant

## **GUESTS**

Joel Clairmont, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture  
Eric Sommer, Director, USDA-NASS  
Cort Jensen, Chief Staff Attorney, Department of Agriculture  
Fred Elling, Producer  
Terry Whiteside, Freight Traffic Consultant, Whiteside and Associates  
Ron Schumacher, Statistician, Department of Agriculture  
Lola Raska, Executive Vice President, Montana Grain Growers Association  
Lochiel Edwards, Chairman, Prairie Marketing Group  
Jeff Rumney, Bureau Chief, State Grain Lab, Department of Agriculture  
Chris Christiaens, Project Specialist, Montana Farmers Union  
Maia Ageson, Agriculture Liaison, Senator Tester's Office  
Kim Falcon, Bureau Chief, Rural Development, Department of Agriculture  
Matt Flikkema, Vice President, Montana Grain Growers Association  
Carol Flikkema  
Janice Mattson, Producer  
Brett Doney, Great Falls Development Authority  
Aeric Reilly, Membership Development, Montana Farmers Union  
Delisa Clampitt, Education Director, Montana Farmers Union  
Dan Kidd, Producer

*Chairman Kolstad called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. After introduction of board members and guests, **Chairman Kolstad called for public comment and heard none.***

Director Mattelin made the motion to adopt the tentative agenda and Director Schoonover seconded it. The agenda passed unanimously.

### **Review of September 30, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Kolstad presented the minutes of the last meeting and asked for any changes or corrections, none were made.

Director Schock moved and Director Hinebauch seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Department of Agriculture Update**

Director de Yong discussed the Bureau Chief vacancy and how the process is going so far. They received 13 applications and will do 10 phone interviews the top five will have a face to face interview.

The Director encouraged everyone to attend the Hail Board meeting being held at the convention.

The Corn check-off will be collected by the Department of Agriculture the same as other commodities.

### **By-Laws Information and Discussion**

Cort Jensen explained the pros and cons of adopting by-laws for the committee after a discussion it was decided to hold off on any decision until a new Bureau Chief is appointed.

### **U.S. Wheat Associates (USW)**

Director Schoonover attended the Wheat Quality meeting and it was decided that Sprinter Wheat would be classified as winter wheat; it is a combination of winter and spring wheat. He also attended the nominating committee there are 3 nominees running for Chairman.

Director Schock attended the Long Range Planning meeting and the office in North Africa has moved to Europe because of tension in the region.

Chairman Kolstad, Directors Myllymaki and Schock attended the Bio Tech meeting where they expressed their concerns about GMO contamination and keeping it domestically.

### **Wheat Marketing Center**

Directors Schoonover, Schock and Myllymaki attended the board meeting, they reported that the cracker line is up and running and 2 classes are scheduled so far. The tension between Wheat Marketing Center and U.S. Wheat Associates seems to be easing. A representative from BNSF has joined the board of directors.

### **Plains Grains Board Meeting**

Director Myllymaki attended the PGI board meeting, they discussed ways they are using the data that is generated from the surveys they conduct. He said that according to PGI this year's crop is a baker's crop because of the good quality.

Kim Falcon explained the role of PGI and some of the history we have with them.

### **Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee**

Director Mattelin reported that the MRRIC is staying with the status quo and not proposing any new projects at this time.

### **Durum Forum**

Director Mattelin was on a panel as a producer discussing durum. Most of the talk was on the large size of the Canadian crop.

### **Northern Crops Institute**

Director Mattelin attended the NCI Board meeting and requested that Kim Falcon give a brief background and purpose of the swing mill. The barley food research is going good and there might be an opportunity to fund a malt barley procurement class in the future.

### **Farmers Union Convention**

Director Siderius attended the Farmers Union Convention and sat in on the Orange Wheat Blossom Midge breakout session, researchers hope to have resistant wheat in the near future.

### **Canadian Agriculture and Food Outlook Conference**

Director Siderius attended the Outlook conference and reported that the Canadians were concerned that commodity prices were going to keep coming down. He also heard about the increased crop production for all crops this year.

### **Association of Latin American Millers (ALIM)**

Director Schock attended the meeting in Peru for the third year, he has made very good contacts and they are happy to see a producer at the meeting.

### **Transportation Update**

Terry Whiteside reported to the board that an informal survey was done by Cassidy, Steve and himself. They called elevators to see how BNSF's 48 car rates will affect their business. Some elevators would suffer while others were not concerned.

### **Program Manager Update**

Cassidy Marn reported on her activities including speaking engagements, surveys and the end of the year report on Trade Teams, there were 17 teams and 63 participants.

Glenn Duff explained the upcoming discussion about the proposed change from Dean of Agriculture to President of Agriculture. He reported that it will change the pool of candidates who apply and encourage those who might not otherwise apply.

### **Japan Mission**

Chairman Kolstad reported on his and Steve's visit to Japan for the Anniversary celebration. He thought it was very important for our relationships in Japan with our buyers.

### **Outreach Coordinator Update**

Steve Becker gave his report of his activities these past few months, he attended the Celebrate Ag at MSU, and the new booth is working well. He also attended the Farm Bureau convention in Billings but said there were a lot of cattle people, may not be worth attending in the future.

### **Montana Grain Growers**

Matt Flikkema gave a Farm Bill update, it might be going to committee soon, will most likely not be completed by the end of the year, because of the holidays.

### **Financial Review**

Kolleen Spurgin presented the Financial Statement and Assessment collection update.

### **New Business**

The board discussed the office space and if we want to continue to rent the space, the lease will have to be negotiated starting in July. The board said if the staff is happy there then we should try to remain in that office space.

There was a discussion about the purchase of a used vehicle and new copier the following motion was made:

Director Schoonover made the motion for the committee to authorize staff to continue to look for a copier and used vehicle and go through the procurement procedure to purchase both the copier and used vehicle. It was seconded by Director Siderius. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Statutory Authority Discussion**

Cort Jensen was asked to present the pros and cons of statutory authority for the committee. It may be a good year to try to get it through the legislature, but may not be

possible politically. The committee would have to have the farm organizations bring a bill before the legislature.

### **Approval of Out of State Travel**

The Wheat Marketing Center Board Meeting was added for March 20-21 and the Craft Brewers Convention in Denver was added for April 8-11.

Director Schock moved to accept the new travel schedule and Director Mattelin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Upcoming Events**

Dec. 3-5	Montana Grain Growers Convention – Great Falls
Dec. 8-11	DTN Ag Summit – Chicago, IL
Dec. 25	Christmas Day – Office Closed
Jan. 1	New Year's Day – Office Closed
Jan. 9	Fusarium Head Blight Forum – Idaho Falls, ID
Jan. 15-16	Wheat Foods Council Board Meeting – Phoenix, AZ
Jan. 16-18	MAGIE Trade Show – Great Falls
Jan. 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Office Closed
Jan. 22-25	PNW Wheat Quality Council Section Meeting – Portland, OR
Jan. 27	MSU Variety Release Meeting – Bozeman
Jan. 29-31	MABA/MGEA Convention – Great Falls
Jan. 29-Feb. 1	U.S. Wheat Associates Winter Board Meeting – Washington, DC
Feb. 3-5	National Hard Spring Wheat Show – Williston, ND
Feb. 10-12	U.S. Grains Council Annual Meeting – Long Beach, CA
Feb. 12-14	Western Barley Growers Association – Calgary, Canada
Feb. 17	President's Day – Office Closed
Feb. 18-20	Wheat Quality Meeting – Kansas City, MO
Feb. 23-25	National Pasta Association Annual Meeting – Naples, FL
Mar. 9-12	Producer Portland Tour – Portland, OR
Mar. 14-15	KATO Farm Expo – Plentywood
Mar. 20-21	Wheat Marketing Center Board Meeting – Portland, OR
Apr. 8-11	Craft Brewers Conference – Denver, CO

### **"View from the Trade Report"**

Byron Grassman gave a brief report; he said he is seeing mostly 12% protein and very good quality.

### **Montana State University Update**

Glenn Duff reported that Bing Von Bergen received the Montana Outstanding Agriculture Leader. MSU held their annual John Deere Expo for the FFA, it was well attended.

**New Business**

The MWBC Research Review Board Meeting in Bozeman will be held on February 5-6, 2014.

The MWBC Budget Board Meeting will be held in Great Falls on March 31 – April 1, 2014.

**Public Comment**

Chairman Kolstad called for public comment:

Janice Mattson donated a gift she had received on a trip she had taken to Japan; it will be displayed at the MWBC office.

Director de Yong was asked what our spending authority would be this legislative session and he consulted Libbi Lovshin and she said whatever we spend this year will be our baseline.

Brett Doney let the committee know what the city of Great Falls is doing to help agriculture.

Lochiel Edwards commented on the snarl of rail traffic on the highline.

Dan Kidd went over some of the rail issues.

Jeff Rumney updated the board on the State Grain Lab.

**Adjournment**

*Chairman Kolstad adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm.*

---

Joel Clairmont, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture

---

Date